

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 190280  
ORIGIN PPTE-00

INFO OCT-01 CA-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SIG-03 MMO-01 SCS-06  
EB-08 HA-05 H-02 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /039 R

DRAFTED BY PT/FC:DELEACH:LIM  
APPROVED BY PT/F:FGRANDO  
EUR/NE:DWOOLFLEY (BY PHONE)  
CA:PKMURPHY (BY PHONE)  
-----109462 272330Z /15

O 272241Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE  
JAMES R GORSON  
DIRECTOR OF FACILITATION  
A.T.A. WASHDC TLX NO. 89655  
ERIC VINCENDON  
DIRECTOR OF FACILITATION  
PAN AM NEW YORK NY TLX NO. 126437  
JEANNE WESTPHAL  
DEP ASST SECRETARY FOR TOURISM  
US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TLX NO. 892536

UNCLAS STATE 190280

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, UK

SUBJECT: US CITIZENS STRANDED BY LACK OF STANDBY SEATS

REF: LONDON 11918

1. AMEMBASSY LONDON ADVISES THAT A LACK OF AVAILABLE  
SEATS FOR PASSENGERS FLYING STANDBY TO USA HAS STRANDED AN  
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ESTIMATED SEVERAL HUNDRED US CITIZENS IN LONDON. PRESSURE  
TO RETURN TO US BEFORE START OF SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER  
COMBINED WITH PEAK SEASON REGULAR AIR TRAFFIC IS EXPECTED  
TO RESULT IN SITUATION WORSENING THROUGHOUT AUGUST.  
EMBASSY RECEIVING NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS NOT ONLY ABOUT LACK  
OF SEATS BUT ALSO LACK OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE  
FROM AIR CARRIERS. WHILE LATTER COMPLAINTS NOT NECESSARILY

MERITORIOUS, SERIOUS PUBLIC RELATIONS PROBLEMS SEEM TO BE  
DEVELOPING FOR BOTH THE AIRLINES AND EMBASSY.

2. POSTS REQUESTED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS IN  
ADVISING US CITIZENS AND LOCAL AIRLINE OFFICES OF  
DIFFICULTIES AND DELAYS BEING EXPERIENCED BY TRAVELLERS  
ATTEMPTING TO TRAVEL TO USA STANDBY FROM LONDON.

3. EXPIRATION DATE: SEPT. 30, 1978. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE190280  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DELEACH:LIM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780309-0104  
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**Office:** ORIGIN PPTE  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 LONDON 11918  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1863078  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US CITIZENS STRANDED BY LACK OF STANDBY SEATS  
**TAGS:** CASC, UK  
**To:** EUR POSTS JAMES R GORSON DIRECTOR OF FACILITA MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2287566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014